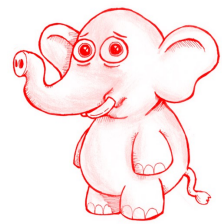


The Tusker Tribune

The Student Newspaper of Somers Middle School



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Fall 2017

Handball Event A Huge Success



**By Jared Googel
Tusker Tribune Staff**

On Thursday, October 26th, the Somers Middle School Student Council hosted a "Hurricane Handball Tournament" to raise money for a middle school in Texas that was impacted by Hurricane Harvey. It's the latest fundraising effort that SMS has done for VH Miller Intermediate School.

There were 29 teams, each consisting of six people who participated in the after school excitement.

Over \$1200 was raised to support the VH Miller Intermediate School in Texas. Somers Middle School has partnered with this school to help its students get back on their feet.

There were many great teams that participated in the tournament. Ultimately, the "Thic Pickles" 8th grade team came out on top.

The Student Council would like to congratulate all of the teams for their efforts. It was a great afternoon for a great cause.



*The Winning Hurricane
Handball Team*

Tablets: Tribulation Or Triumph?



**By Aleksiana Rukaj
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Tablets... Good or bad?

School tablets are very popular at Somers Middle School. It seems every child is always on it, figuring out what background to use or what stickers will suit it.

Though they are fun to have around, are they really all that good? I surveyed some students to get their take on the gadgets.

Hester Turner immediately responds to the survey, "I hate them!" She says, "They are so slow and they don't work at all, at least mine doesn't! I feel like I have to go to the Gear Shack every day!" Hester says that her tablet randomly breaks and she has nothing to do about it. "They do help me sometimes learn, but if they are broken, then they just distract us."

The next person I surveyed was Lydia Wilke-Olsen. I asked her if she liked or disliked the tablets and why. Lydia responded: "They break for no reason! My touch

screen just randomly stopped working and so did my keyboard! Plus, they look like leap frogs!"

That's already two people who do NOT like the tablets! Some people have agreed that the tablets help them learn better.

"They make things easy to do. I can edit my writing easier. If I forget my book, it's always on my tablet!" says

7th grader Xzavier Marcus. He also says that he likes the loaner tablets better! "The Unobooks are slow and the keyboard is not that great."

Robert Diven and Matthew Horowitz say that not only are the tablets slow, but they freeze up a lot, too. Liam King says that they easily malfunction and they glitch out when you simply touch the screen.

Seems like the tablets are getting lots of hate! It may just be the type of tablet that us 7th graders get or the fact that they just don't help us learn and they distract us!

Good: 2; Bad: 6



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**By Abigail Searles
Tusker Tribune Staff**

There is something about fall
That makes it different from all

The leaves fall and crunch
And the people bake and munch
The different colors really pop out
And that is what autumn is all about.



Our Justice System is What Separates Us from Other Countries



**By Sean Moran
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Disasters plague America in the 21st century, and lately, terror attacks are a large part of it.

The latest terrorist attack happened on Tuesday, October 31st when a 29 year old man swerved into a bike path in Manhattan. Sayfullo Saipov, an Uzbek immigrant, killed eight people and injured 11. He was wounded and taken into custody. Despite this, New York City still held its Halloween parade in defiance of terror threats.

The man claimed he was affiliated with ISIS and reportedly asked if the ISIS flag could be displayed in his hospital room. People who have talked with him prior to the attack described him as a nice person. He was reportedly



radicalized in America, most likely through the Internet.

The attacker also said he planned to drive into more people on a nearby bridge, but he crashed into a school bus in the confusion. A Belgian and five Argentines were victims; along with three Americans. In the future details may emerge showing his real motives, or if he had any knowledge of other ISIS activities. He is currently being charged with acts of terrorism, and also reportedly researched Halloween in New York City prior to the attack because more people would be out and about.

The cowardice of this attack has truly helped Americans unify in this time of division. The attacker will be put on trial, and will certainly face a severe punishment. It is interesting to think about how even though it is so certain the attacker meant this to be a deadly terrorist attack, this man will still be tried fairly because he is in America.



Music Report!



**By Noah Volkman
Tusker Tribune Staff**

There is always tons of music released out to the world every single week.

I personally am a music wiz. I know when my favorite artists release music up to before it even comes out. Of course, unless, it doesn't go on pre-order.

Here are some songs and albums that have come out within the last month or so or will be coming out:

***The Thrill of It All* by Sam Smith**

This new album by the pop artist that brought us the 2014 hit "*Stay with Me*" is back with his second studio album. His first of three singles off the album, "*Too Good at Goodbyes*", was announced on September 1, but coming out September 8. The British artist had come back out of hiding with an Apple Connect post revealing the new track.



Rating: 3.5 of 5

***Red Pill Blues* by Maroon 5**

This very anticipated fun, energetic album came out November 3. Maroon 5 has built up fame over many years and lead singer Adam Levine is a very busy guy.

The album has been talked about since Maroon 5's first single off of it came out October 11, 2016. "*Don't*

Wanna Know" was a radio jam for months featuring vocals from rapper Kendrick Lamar. Next came "*Cold*", in mid-February, with vocals from a different rapper, Future. It was much more R&B-styled than "*Don't Wanna Know*".

MAROON 5



The Tusker Tribune is published online and is featured weekly on the Somers Middle School Website. It is entirely student-written by 6th, 7th and 8th grade students from Somers Middle School. 250 Route 202 Somers, NY, USA. Any SMS student is eligible to write stories. If interested, please e-mail Advisor Dean Pappas at DPappas@somersschools.org



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Fall: The Turning Point of Our Year!



By Angelina Ayoubi
Tusker Tribune Staff

Autumn leaves, pumpkins, coats, scarves, and the crisp mornings-

FALL IS HERE.

It's the best time in the year! It gives you a hint of the cold, refreshing breezes to come in the winter, and the remaining of those warm summer days you basked and played in during the summer.

Nobody even realizes how much time has gone by until fall is here. As a result, fall becomes the turning point in the year. It's even a home, and welcoming to some of the greatest times of year, the best holidays, fun festivities, and traditions! Here are some of the favorites:

September 4, 2017: Labor Day- a time where we show respect and honor those who work in labor.

October 9, 2017: Columbus Day- this is the day Christopher Columbus came to our land by accident, thinking he was in Indonesia, began his sole purpose of coming here: the search for gold.

October 31, 2017: Halloween- a fun and interesting tradition that started when the Celtics believed that the dead could rise up and live for that

one day that became known as Halloween.



November 5, 2017: Daylight Saving Time Ends- We set all clocks back an hour to make better use of the daylight. We do the same in the summer when we set our clocks forward an hour.

November 7, 2017: Election Day- When our leaders in government are elected.

November 10, 2017: Veterans Day (observed) -The day before the official Veterans Day holiday, to allow more time for it, and to allow everyone is able to celebrate it, all businesses are closed, so the holiday is on a weekend.

November 11, 2017: Veterans Day- A day where we honor the people who once loyally served our country. On this day, we thank the military veterans who served in the armed forces.

November 23, 2017: Thanksgiving- a remembrance of when the pioneers bonded with the Native Americans/giving thanks to our past ancestors and what we have now.

I hope everyone enjoys these happy times, festivities, and holidays!

More to come on the "Student Calibrator"!



Music From page 2

Then they went quiet, working in secret on the new album until August 30, when they came back with "What Lovers Do" featuring great singing from R&B singer SZA. It is upbeat, happy and captures the meaning of the song. A few weeks later, they finally put **Red Pill Blues** out to the world. It has a mix of hip-hop, pop, dance, etc.



Rating: 4.5 of 5

Reputation by Taylor Swift

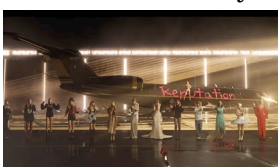
This largely and crazily anticipated album has two days to be given to the world. Taylor Swift's last album, **1989** was a banger for 2 years. That almost never happens. The first song, "**Look What You Made Me Do**", is insanely catchy and I have no problem with that. The music video starts out with a graveyard and then it zooms in on a

tombstone that reads 'HERE LIES TAYLOR SWIFT'S REPUTATION'.

Then a zombie Taylor comes out and then it goes to a Taylor in a bathtub full of silver necklaces and other silver jewelry. She has a snotty look on her face.

At the end, several clones of Taylor Swift with a graffiti plane in the background are shown. The clones represent the different phases of her musical career.

From Country Taylor to 'Shake It Off' Ballerina



Taylor to Zombie Taylor. They all fight with each other. It's an awesome video with over 680 million views on YouTube. Over 684 million views!

The next three singles, "**... Ready For It?**", "**Gorgeous**", and "**Call It What You Want**" are also amazing.

Rating: 5 of 5

That's it for this week, but I'll be back with more!

